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DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1959

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Public Health Department,
West Hill House,
West Hill,
EPSOM,
Surrey.

June, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Dorking and Horley Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an annual report for the year 1959, in accordance with the requirements set out in Ministry of Health Circular 1/60, which contains relevant references to Regulations 5 (3) and 15 (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Section I of the report deals with the vital statistics of the district, and these justify the statement that during the year the health of the community was good. There was a considerable rise in the birth rate, a fall in the death rate and a low level of infant mortality. There was no evidence that environmental conditions were directly responsible for ill health, with the qualification that the continued shortage of houses available for letting to people in the lower wage group has caused anxiety, mental strain and concomitant symptoms of physical illness in a number of cases.

Section II contains a brief general description of the health services operating in the district. The only material change which has occurred during the year has been the institution of an experimental scheme by the Mass Radiography Service of the Regional Hospital Board for weekly visits to Horley by one of its units for the purpose of X-raying people referred to it by their own doctors. The unit also visited a site in Dorking, and the scheme therefore provided a convenient service for the whole of the district.

Section III deals with other services of great importance to the well-being of the community, and contains brief descriptions of the water supply of the district, of the arrangement for dealing with bodily excreta and with household and trade refuse, and with other miscellaneous matters.

Section IV deals with housing and Section V with food. These are matters which are mainly under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector, whose report contains details of the work carried out in connection with these important matters.

Section VI is concerned with the incidence of infectious diseases during the year and with their prevention. The principal epidemiological feature was a widespread extension of the measles epidemic which had commenced in Betchworth and Holmwood in 1958. There was also an increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever affecting principally the Parish of Horley. There were no cases of enteric fever, poliomyelitis or diphtheria.

It is a pleasant duty to record the keen interest of the Public Health Committee, under the invigorating chairmanship of Major General E. H. Goulburn, D.S.O., in the matters which have been brought to its attention, and to thank the Council for its continued support.

The conscientious work performed by the members of the Council's Public Health Inspector (Mr. E. A. Atkinson) and his staff deserves high commendation. My thanks are due to the Chief Officers of the other departments of the Council's staff for advice and assistance willingly given whenever sought.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
CYRUS IVE.

Medical Officer of Health.

(1)

DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE 1959-1960.

Chairman of the Committee	Maj.Gen. E. H. Goulburn, D.S.O.
Vice-Chairman " "	V. H. Deuchar, C.C.
Members " "	W. G. L. Austin, J.P., C.C.
	Mrs. I. Carr
	Mrs. P. J. M. Catterall
	R. D. Duncan
	A. Farley
	G. R. Horley
	B. F. Hunt
	Mrs. C. I. MacLeod
	S. B. Morgan, A.C.A.
	Mrs. B. C. North
	Col. T. R. B. Sanders, G.B.
	J. W. Shepherd
	H. G. Tyrrell-Evans
	Group Capt. F. Whitworth

Representatives of the Council on

(1) SOUTHERN DIVISIONAL (HEALTH) SUB-COMMITTEE

Mrs. I. Carr
A. L. Clark x
G. R. Horley
B. F. Hunt =
Miss E. A. B. Wilding

x Resigned 4.9.59 = Appointed 26.11.59

(2) TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

G. R. Horley (Dorking)
B. F. Hunt (Reigate)

DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

Cyrus Ive, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.S., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Eric A. Atkinson

M.P.H.I.A.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

D. D. Heath

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

R. R. Charman

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Medical Officer of Health's Staff

Secretary/Clerk:

Miss E. E. Nolan

Clerk/Telephonist:

Mrs. M. E. Joseph

Junior Clerk:

Miss G. F. Skidmore

Chief Public Health Inspector's Staff

Shorthand Typists:

Miss E. M. Knight

Miss A. E. Griustead

Clerk i/c Cesspool Records

Mr. S. R. Smith

Public Health Inspector's Assistant

W. J. Woodards

The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical staff act in a similar capacity for the Dorking and Leatherhead Urban Districts and for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell.

The Chief Public Health Inspector also acts as Housing Officer to the Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

THE YEAR 19591. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	53,943
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	25,832
Population (estimated mid-year 1959)			...	...	30,520
Density (persons per acre)		...	...	...	0.57
Rateable value at 31st December, 1959			...	...	£532,741
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£2,050

PARISHES COMPRISING THE DISTRICT WITH AREA AND POPULATION (Census 1951)

Parish	Population	Area (acres)	No. of occupied dwellings	Persons per acre
Abinger	1,889	7,481	549	0.25
Betchworth	1,614	2,562	440	0.63
Buckland	640	1,362	188	0.47
Capel	2,386	5,694	718	0.42
Charlwood	2,757	6,901	760	0.40
Headley	591	1,640	124	0.36
Holmwood	1,084	3,749	285	0.29
Horley	11,394	7,449	3,278	1.53
Leigh	820	3,419	224	0.24
Newdigate	1,220	4,744	365	0.26
Ockley	798	3,400	243	0.23
Wotton	639	5,542	191	0.12
	25,832	53,943	7,365	0.54



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EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Total	585	301	284	
Legitimate	561	288	273	
Illegitimate	24	13	11	
Live birth rate per 1,000 population				19.2
Standardised birth rate				19.6
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births				4.1

Still Births

Total	8	5	3	
Still birth rate per 1,000 live & still births				13.5

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

Total	8	6	2	
Legitimate	8	6	2	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births total				13.7
" " " " " " " legitimate				14.3
" " " " " " " illegitimate				-
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live births (Neonatal Mortality)				10.3
Deaths of infants under 1 week of age per 1,000 live births (Early Neonatal Mortality)				8.5
Still births & deaths under 1 week per 1000 live & still births (Perinatal Mortality)				21.9

Maternal Mortality

Maternal deaths (including abortion)	-
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live & still births	-

Deaths

Total	277	143	134	
Crude death rate per 1,000 population		...	...	9.1
Standardised death rate	...	...	...	9.3

Table I includes birth and death rates, with a comparison with the figures for 1958, and Table II gives a comparison of birth, death and infant mortality rates for the district since 1931, with the figures for England and Wales for the same period.

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 585 of which 301 were males and 284 females. The crude birth rate was 19.2 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the rate of 17.9 for 1958.

Births (cont.)

Details such as age and sex distribution affect local birth rates and invalidate comparison with the rates of other populations. To overcome this a comparability factor (1.02) has been supplied by the Registrar General which when applied to the crude birth rate gives a figure which may be used for purposes of comparison. On application of this factor a standardised birth rate of 19.6 is obtained, compared with a rate of 16.5 for England and Wales.

DEATHS

Deaths assigned to the area numbered 277, representing a crude death rate of 9.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The total comprised 143 males and 134 females, and was 31 less than in 1958.

A comparability factor (1.03) has been provided by the Registrar General which may be applied to the crude death rate for use in comparing the local death rate with those of other areas. The factor makes allowance for the differing age and sex distribution of local populations. Application of the factor to the local rate increases it from 9.1 to 9.3. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.6.

Approximately 56% of the deaths took place in hospitals and nursing homes.

The deaths were divided among the parishes in the following numbers: Abinger 11, Betchworth 26, Buckland 5, Capel 21, Charlwood 25, Headley 5, Horley 144, Leigh 8, Newdigate 11, Ockley 8, Holmwood 9 and Wotton 4.

Causes of Death

The causes of deaths assigned to the district are classified in Table III. Of the total of 277 deaths, diseases of the heart and vascular system (categories 17-21 in Table III) caused 142, malignant diseases (categories 10-14) 61, and diseases of the respiratory system (categories 23-25) 27 deaths.

Deaths from Road Accidents

Two residents died as a result of injuries received in road accidents in which motor vehicles were involved, compared with eight in 1958. Both were Horley residents and both received their injuries in local accidents, one while walking and the other while cycling.

In my report for 1956 I drew the attention of the Council to the high accident mortality rate of schoolchildren, particularly in the Horley area. This information was also given to the Divisional Education Officer, who in turn reminded the headteachers of all schools in Horley of the need for continued educational training in road safety. It was also given to the Road Safety Committee which extended its educational activities considerably during the year. It is encouraging to note that for the third year in succession there were no deaths of schoolchildren in the Horley area.

Deaths due to other Accidents

These numbered six and included two deaths which were due to complications which followed falls of elderly persons; two deaths which were due to drowning, one in the sea and one of a young child in a private swimming pool; one of a person who died as a result of being struck by a branch of a falling tree and one death due to complications arising in the course of treatment for a surgical condition.

Deaths (cont.)

Suicide

One death was certified as having been caused by suicide.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of children under the age of one year numbered eight, and the infant mortality rate was 13.7 per 1,000 live births. Comparable figures for 1958 were six deaths with an infant mortality rate of 11.2. The rate for England and Wales was 22.0.

The causes of death were congenital malformations inconsistent with prolonged life in five cases, prematurity in two cases and middle ear disease in one.

For the second year in succession the figures for the Rural District were extremely low and compared most favourably with the national figures. They are a reminder that great credit is due to all persons involved in the maintenance and safeguarding of infant health, whether acting in the capacity of parents, guardians or by reason of their profession.

Maternal Mortality

There was no death attributable to maternal causes.

The maternal mortality rate for 1959 for England and Wales was 0.38 per 1,000 live and still births.

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of population was 30,520 and showed an increase of 540 on the previous year. Part of this was due to natural increase, excess of births over deaths being 308. It is assumed that the remainder of the estimated increase was due to immigration to those parts of the district in which new development took place, principally in Horley and Salfords.

The population of the district is estimated to have increased by 4,688 since the Census was taken in 1951. Most of this growth has taken place in the Parish of Horley (approximate increase 4,000), with small increases in the Parishes of Abinger, Betchworth and Capel. A decrease in population of approximately 200 has occurred in the Parish of Charlwood as a result of the development of Gatwick Airport.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Horley and District Cottage Hospital is the only hospital situated in the district. It has a bed complement of 16 and is staffed by the local general practitioners with a panel of consultants whose services can be called upon if necessary.

The Dorking General Hospital and the Redhill County Hospital, together with its branch at Smallfields, provide accommodation for medical, surgical and maternity cases, and it is to these that the majority of patients requiring in-treatment are admitted.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases and requiring treatment in hospital may be admitted to one of a number of hospitals, depending on the accommodation available at the time. During the year cases were admitted to Bletchingley Hospital, Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton and to the Western Fever Hospital, Fulham.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Laboratories available to medical practitioners are provided at the East Surrey Hospital, the Redhill County Hospital, the Dorking General Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford. Examination of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases can be referred to either of two Public Health Laboratories of the Medical Research Council, one situated at West Hill House, West Hill, Epsom and the other at St. Luke's Hospital Guildford. These laboratories also undertake bacteriological examinations of samples of water supplies, milk and food, including ice-cream, and biological examinations for tubercle bacilli in milk.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The public ambulance service is under the control of the Surrey County Council, who have given the following information regarding the use of the service:-

The main ambulance station for the area is at the Smallfields Section of the Redhill County Hospital (telephone Smallfields 271) with a sub-station at Harrowlands, South Terrace, Dorking.

In accidents in the home or elsewhere or in any sudden illness in the streets or public places, any responsible person may call the ambulance to remove the patient (if by telephone, use the local Emergency Calling System). Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications, or where birth is imminent, are not normally removed without the authority of a doctor or certified midwife, who should travel with the patient in the ambulance.

The removal of other cases of illness or accidents are arranged by the hospital concerned or by the medical practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals, a written request, accompanied by a doctor's certificate, should be made to the County Medical Officer for his consideration. Provided that these requirements are fulfilled, no charge is made to users.

THE PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, immunisation and vaccination, ambulance and domestic help is the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day-to-day administration has been delegated to the Southern Divisional Health Sub-Committee and its officers, with headquarters at "Caberfeigh", Hatchlands Road, Redhill, (telephone No. Redhill 3206).

For convenience of reference, details of clinics are set out in tabular form.

<u>Type of Clinic</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time of Session</u>
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	Ewhurst Village Hall	1st & 3rd Fri. 2 p.m.
	Peaslake Old School Room	2nd & 4th Mon. 2 p.m.
	Holly Bush, Holmbury St. Mary	2nd & 4th Fri. 2 p.m.
	The Vicarage, Betchworth	1st Tues. 2 p.m.
	Brockham Homes, Brockham	1st & 3rd Fri. 2 p.m.
	Wesley Hall, Capel	2nd & 4th Thurs. 2 p.m.
	Parish Hall, Charlwood	2nd & 4th Wed. 2 p.m.
	Village Hall, Headley	2nd & 4th Mon. 2 p.m.
	Congregation School Room, Walton-on-the-Hill	1st & 3rd Tues. 2 p.m.
	Mansion House, Leatherhead	Fri. 2 p.m.
	Village Hall, Nth. Holmwood	1st & 3rd Thurs. 2 p.m.
	Health Centre, Station Road, Horley	1st & 3rd Wed. a.m. and Fri. 2 p.m.
	Health Centre, Leigh	2nd Mon. 2 p.m.
	Village Hall, Newdigate (Voluntary)	3rd Tues. 2 p.m.
	Village Hall, Ockley	1st & 3rd Fri. 2 p.m.
	Parish Hall, Salfords	2nd & 4th Tues. 2 p.m.
	Dene Street, Dorking	Mon. & Wed. 2 p.m.
	Reading Room, Westcott	2nd & 4th Mon. 2 p.m.
Ante-Natal	Dorking General Hospital	Fri. 9.30 a.m.
	Welfare Centre, Station Road, Horley	Wed. 2 p.m.
	Redhill County Hospital	Tues. 1.30 p.m.
	Mansion House, Leatherhead	Tues. 1.30 p.m.
	Epsom District Hospital	Mon. & Thurs. 2 p.m.

Clinics (cont.)

<u>Type of Clinic</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time of Session</u>
Dental	Health Centre, Station Road, Horley	By Appointment
Remedial Exercises	" "	" "
Speech Therapy	" "	" "
Tuberculosis	Health Centre, Dene Street, Dorking	Fri. 10 a.m.
	Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common, Redhill	1st & 3rd Mon. 2 p.m. Wed. 9.30 a.m. Thurs. 2nd & 4th 2 p.m. Fri. 3rd 2 p.m.
	Epsom District Hospital, Dorking Road, Epsom	Tues & Thurs. 2 p.m. 3rd Thurs. 5.30 p.m.
Family Planning	Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common, Redhill	Tues. 6 - 7.30 p.m. (except the Tuesday following a bank holiday)
	Dorking General Hospital	Tues. 6 - 7.30 p.m. (except the Tuesday following a bank holiday)
	Epsom District Hospital	Fri. 7 p.m.
Venereal Diseases	Redhill County Hospital	Males: Mon. 5-7 p.m.
	Royal Surrey County Hospital Guildford	Males: Tues. & Fri. 5 - 7 p.m. Females: Mon. 2-7 p.m. Thurs. 9.30-11 a.m.
	St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton	Males: Mon. 5-7 p.m. Females: Wed. 5-7 p.m.
	(And at the Out-Patient Department of many London Hospitals.)	

IMMUNISATION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus and vaccination against smallpox and poliomyelitis can be obtained from medical practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or on application at the County Council Health Centres. Poliomyelitis vaccination is restricted to persons born in 1920 and after, though treatment is also available to people whose occupation is thought to carry additional risk of infection, and also to expectant mothers

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is available for children of school leaving age, and for all children who have been in close contact with cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Details of the numbers treated in these various procedures will be found in Section 6 of this report.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

Two branches of the Family Planning Association are active in the district. The Dorking Branch of the Association, under the Chairmanship of Mrs. G. H. Woodman, provides a weekly clinic at the Dorking General Hospital, with the consent of the Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Superintendent. The Reigate, Redhill and District Family Planning Association, under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Lady Farrer, provides a similar clinic at the Redhill County Hospital. The medical staff is appointed by the Association and is assisted by voluntary workers. The work of the Association is concerned with the teaching of methods of contraception to married persons, with the investigation of cases of sub-fertility, and with the solution of difficulties connected with marriage relationships.

The Dorking Branch of the Association dealt with 122 new patients during the year, many of whom were resident in the Rural District.

VENEREAL DISEASES

The Regional Hospital Board is the authority responsible for the administration of matters dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Diseases. Particulars of facilities available are included in the list on page 10.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Section 47 of the Act of 1948 gave power to local authorities to take steps to deal with persons suffering from chronic illness or infirmity, who for one reason or another are not receiving proper care and attention, and who are unable to manage for themselves. As might be expected, the majority of these are old people, who in addition to physical illness, have some loss of mental power sufficient to curtail their reasoning powers, but not serious enough to require their admission to hospitals for mental illness.

Under the 1948 Act, power was given to the local authority to apply to the Magistrates' Court for an Order to obtain the removal, for a period not exceeding three months, of a person found in such conditions. As the result of experience, it was found that the time taken to comply with the legal requirements of the Act in obtaining an Order for removal was so long that the practical value of the powers given by the Act to local authorities was curtailed. An amending Act, which came into force in 1951, enabled authorities to adopt a more expeditious procedure in cases requiring urgent attention.

No action was taken under this section during the year, though investigation was called for in several cases.

MOBILE CHEST RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE FOR GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

For the purpose of dealing with cases referred to it by general practitioners, a mobile unit visited Horley for one hour each week. It was thus possible for any patient having symptoms referable to abnormalities of the lungs to be examined with expedition with a minimum of inconvenience.

Similar facilities were available in Dorking.

WATER SUPPLIES

The East Surrey Water Company provides piped water supplies to ten of the twelve parishes of the Rural District, these being Betchworth, Buckland, Charlwood, Headley, Horley, Newdigate, Leigh, Holmwood, Capel and Ockley. It also supplies the Rammore area of Wotton.

The supply by the East Surrey Water Company to Holmwood, Capel and Ockley is derived from the series of wells sunk into the Folkestone beds on the western outskirts of Dorking. It is chlorinated but not softened before distribution.

The supply of the East Surrey Water Company to the remainder of the area is obtained, to a great extent, from deep wells in the chalk of the North Downs, and is softened and chlorinated before distribution. Additional supplies are available from bore holes in the greensand, one of which is situated in the Parish of Buckland.

The Guildford, Godalming and District Water Board supplies piped water supplies to the Parish of Abinger and to the greater part of the Parish of Wotton. The water supplied by the Board is obtained from deep bore holes in the greensand in Guildford Rural District.

The chemical and bacteriological qualities of the water supplies of both undertakings have remained consistently satisfactory and of a high standard of purity during the year.

Typical results of the examinations of the water supplied by the East Surrey Water Company and by the Guildford, Godalming and District Water Board are as follows, (chemical results in parts per million):-

	<u>East Surrey Water Co.</u>		Guildford Water Board
	Dorking Wells	Leatherhead Pumping Station	
Colour	Normal	Normal	Normal
Taste	Nil	Nil	Nil
pH	7.06	8.1	7.4
Electric Conductivity	330	300	295
Chloride as Chlorine	18	23	17.2
Hardness: Total	150	115	152
Temporary	100	68	110
Permanent	50	47	42
Nitrate Nitrogen	4.8	6.3	5.9
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.000	0.034	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.000	Nil	0.005
Metals Iron	0.03	0.01	0.66
Zinc	0.8	Nil	0.2
Others	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Solid Residue	220	200	220
Oxygen absorbed	0.25	Nil	0.08

EXTENSION OF PIPED WATER SUPPLIES

The extension to serve the hamlet at Abinger Bottom which was mentioned in my report for 1958 was carried out during the year.

Consideration to extension of piped supplies in the following areas was also given in 1959:-

- (1) In the Haroldslea area of Horley after prolonged and at times difficult negotiations a piped supply was made available to serve three existing dwellings. The owners agreed to contribute between them the sum of £166. 15. 1., the balance of £52. 18. 9. being found from the Council's general rate fund.
- (2) Water shortage again made itself evident during the year in the area midway between Holmbury St. Mary and Forest Green. The Council arranged for water to be carted to the area on three occasions, following which the Guildford, Godalming and District Water Board provided a quotation for the laying of approximately 2,000 yards of new 4" main from the existing main at Forest Green northwards, terminating in the vicinity of "Marie Cottage", to serve 20 premises, for the sum of £7,336. The Public Health Committee recommended that subject to the various owners providing between them two-thirds of the capital cost the Council would finance the remainder from the general rate fund on the basis of a guarantee agreement. At the end of the year negotiations with the various owners had not been commenced.
- (3) The shortage of water in the Leith Hill area has been noted in previous annual reports and in 1959 the matter was taken a stage further by the quotation of the East Surrey Water Company for the extension of the existing main at Weald View Cottages for a distance of 1,700 yards to serve 20 dwellings in the sum of £11,100. This sum includes the provision of a new 60,000 gallon reservoir at 800 feet A.O.D. Here again the Public Health Committee recommended that subject to the respective owners contributing two-thirds of the capital cost the Council would be prepared to find the balance from the general rate fund.

PREMISES WITHOUT A PIPED WATER SUPPLY

The number of occupied houses without a piped water supply within reasonable distance, is as follows:-

Parish	Wells	Springs	No Supply	Total
Abinger	39	7	-	46
Betchworth	1	-	-	1
Buckland	-	-	-	-
Capel	-	3	9	12
Charlwood	1	-	-	1
Headley	-	-	-	-
Horley	1	-	-	1
Holmwood	-	14	-	14
Leigh	-	-	-	-
Newdigate	8	-	-	8
Ockley	3	-	-	3
Wotton	-	47	-	47
TOTAL	53	71	9	133

A considerable proportion of the wells and springs are unreliable in either quality or quantity, and in some cases in both.

Premises without a piped water supply (cont.)

As mentioned in previous reports, despite the progress that has been made in the provision of piped water supplies over the past 10 years, there are several areas where piped water from a public supply is still urgently needed. These are Broadmoor, the Leith Hill area of the Parish of Wotton, Friday Street and King George's Hill, all in the Parish of Wotton, the Trap Lane area in the Parish of Ockley and the Rusper Road area in the Parish of Capel.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Briefly the sewerage systems which exist in seven of the twelve parishes are as follows:-

Abinger

A length of sewer (approximately 785 yards) serves the hamlet of Abinger Hammer and discharges into the sewers of Guildford Rural District Council for ultimate treatment in the Guildford Borough Sewage Disposal Works.

Betchworth

A proportion of the parish has been sewered by a gravitational system discharging to a pumping station in the Wonham Lane whence the sewage is lifted to the sewer of the Dorking Urban District Council for treatment by that authority. Apart from the development of a new housing estate at Strood Green there has been no major change in the sewerage of the parish.

Buckland

Following reports of the unsatisfactory nature of the sewage disposal arrangements at Tranquil Dale, Buckland, an enquiry was made of the Dorking Urban District Council whether subject to formal agreement that authority was now in a position to receive and treat any further sewage at their Pixham Lane Works. By December it appeared likely that a satisfactory arrangement would be possible. The question of laying a new sewer from Tranquil Dale to Betchworth at an estimated cost of £8,000 was therefore brought into the priority scheme and will, it is now hoped, receive early solution.

Capel

The Parish of Capel has a small system of sewerage serving the built-up area of the village and Beare Green. The sewers discharge gravitationally to a treatment plant comprising settlement tanks, pumping plant and four filter beds. Some proportion of the sewage after settlement is treated by broad irrigation.

Since 1950 the sewers have been extended to serve the White Hart Estate and the Misbrocks Green areas, and the new Council estate at Bennetts Wood.

Charlwood

A comprehensive system serves the entire village and discharges via two pumping stations to the Horley Sewage Works. This work was completed in 1957 at an approximate cost of £130,000. By 31st December, 1959, 421 properties had been connected to the sewer.

Drainage and Sewerage (cont.)

Holmwood

The parish of Holmwood is covered by a fairly extensive system of sewerage discharging to a small disposal works at Henfold Lane. Apart from an extension of sewer to serve the Warwick Road Housing Estate no extension to this system has taken place since 1950.

The condition of the works and of the effluent continues to occasion anxiety and the Thames Conservancy has drawn attention to the fact that the effluent does not comply with the recommended standards of purity. Proposals for a new disposal works sited at Six Acres Copse, at Broad Lane, Newdigate to replace the Holmwood Works and to serve part of the Parish of Newdigate were considered by the Council during 1959.

The areas to be served contain about 1,520 houses, some with cesspools and others with earth closets or septic tanks. About 460 of these houses are on main drainage flowing to the Holmwood Sewage Works. Including the Council's development of the Musicians' Site at Beare Green, the scheme allows for a further 520 houses.

The scheme provides for the construction of a new Sewage Disposal Works in woodland known as Six Acre Copse, at the North end of the Parish of Newdigate to the west side of Broad Lane, and the new works would be capable of treating sewage from parts of Holmwood, Newdigate and Leigh. The existing Sewage Disposal Works in Henfold Lane would be altered to treat storm water flows from Holmwood, and also to receive the contents of cesspool tankers. An ultimate population equivalent to 5,300 has been allowed for in designing the disposal works, and this figure should be large enough to cater for all reasonable development which can be anticipated at the present time.

The scheme also provides for a new trunk sewer to be constructed from the existing Disposal Works in Henfold Lane to the site of the new Sewage Disposal Works at Six Acre Copse, also for a new sewer to be constructed from the entrance to the White Hart Estate across the main road and down Green Lane to the existing sewer.

Part of the scheme has been designed for the Broad Lane and Elwood Lane areas of Newdigate, and the lower end of this sewer would have to be constructed at the same time as the entrance road to the new Sewage Disposal Works. Twelve of the properties at the northern end of Broad Lane were on a private drainage system, which could be connected to the new sewer, thus dispensing with this private system.

The new disposal works at Six Acre Copse would receive gravitational flows from Broad Lane, while the Holmwood sewage would have to be pumped. Furthermore it had been considered prudent to make provision in the design of the works for the inclusion of part of Leigh in the drainage system at some future date.

The Six Acre Copse site consisted of an area of woodland inside which the units were to be built, leaving a screen of growth around all the visible parts. At the low end of the wood an area of grassland could be used for final effluent treatment by allowing the sewage to flow over the land before it entered the stream.

The new works were designed to deal with a dry weather flow of 211,000 gallons per day, and to give full treatment to up to three times the dry weather flow, and to meet the requirements of the Thames Conservancy storm water tanks would be provided.

Drainage and Sewerage (cont.)

Horley

The Parish of Horley is served by a comprehensive scheme of sewerage discharging to a modern treatment plant in Lee Street, Horley. The system is a separate one, and deals with foul drainage only as distinct from a combined system which caters for both foul and surface water sewage in the same pipe.

The treatment plant consists of automatic electric pumps, settling tanks, rotary sprinklers, humus tanks and sludge-drying beds and was designed to deal with a dry weather flow of 370,000 gallons per day. Since 1950 there have been extensions of the sewers to serve properties in Meath Green Lane, and in Snailfield Road. In addition many lengths of new sewers have been provided in connection with the development of new estates. One hundred and seventy-five new properties were connected to sewers in 1959.

In addition to the residential development in Horley and the increasing volume of sewage received from Charlwood, extra demands on the capacity of the works have been made as the result of the expansion of the industrial area at Salfords, and by the reconstruction of Gatwick Airport. The works now receive an average dry weather flow of over 800,000 gallons which is twice the amount for which they were designed. Accordingly the Council have instructed their consulting Engineer to prepare plans for the enlargement of the Horley Sewage Works which it is hoped will be put in hand without any unnecessary delay.

The Public Health Department has been active in sponsoring the laying of a private sewer to serve four properties in Horley Lodge Lane, after the Council had decided that the expenditure of public funds on this matter was not possible. The scheme prepared in the Department and accepted by the respective owners provided for the laying of approximately 899ft. of 4" S.G.W. pipes at an estimated cost of £788. 1. 1. to be divided between the various owners concerned. Owing to the time taken to prepare the scheme and to get the various owners consent it was not possible to commence the work by the end of the year.

Ockley

The Parish of Ockley is served by two small disposal works consisting of screening chambers, settling tanks, filters, syphoning chambers and humus tanks which have functioned satisfactorily.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

The Council has continued its undertaking to empty cesspools six times a year, or to remove the equivalent of twelve loads if the capacity of the cesspool is less than 1,500 gallons, without additional charge. The rising cost of this service made it necessary for some revision in the charges for additional emptyings, the new scale being as follows:-

Quantity Removed	Charge	Quantity Removed	Charge
Up to 750 gallons	13s. 0d.	5001 - 5250 gallons	91s. 0d.
751 - 1000 "	17s. 6d.	5251 - 6000 "	105s. 0d.
1001 - 1500 "	26s. 0d.	6001 - 6750 "	117s. 0d.
1501 - 2000 "	35s. 0d.	6751 - 7000 "	122s. 6d.
2001 - 2250 "	39s. 0d.	7001 - 7500 "	130s. 0d.
2251 - 3000 "	52s. 6d.	7501 - 8000 "	140s. 0d.
3001 - 3750 "	65s. 6d.	8001 - 8250 "	143s. 0d.
3751 - 4000 "	70s. 0d.	8251 - 9000 "	157s. 6d.
4001 - 4500 "	78s. 0d.	9001 - 9750 "	169s. 0d.
4501 - 5000 "	87s. 6d.	9751 - 10000 "	175s. 0d.

Cesspool Emptying (cont.)

Disposal is by tipping, most of which can only be described as crude, but at Stanhill, Charlwood, treatment by broad irrigation is carried out, and at Parkhurst Corner, Abinger, by settlement and filtration. However, the disposal of cesspool contents leaves much to be desired and the provision of special facilities at new sewage disposal works is still awaited. There is little doubt that at an early date the Council will have to give serious consideration to the disposal of cesspool contents as the condition of the crude tips cannot be ignored for much longer.

The actual work carried out in 1959 was as follows:-

Parish	No. of Cesspools 1959		No. of Emptyings	Total loads removed	Average No. of empty- ings per cess pool	Average No. of loads per empty- ing
	Known	Emptied				
Abinger	309	221	1540	2080	4.9	1.3
Betchworth	98	79	301	509 $\frac{3}{4}$	3.1	1.6
Buckland	124	104	307	618 $\frac{1}{4}$	2.4	2.0
Capel	127	122	328	466	2.5	1.4
Charlwood	394	302	1472	2041 $\frac{1}{2}$	3.7	1.4
Headley	69	52	254	547 $\frac{1}{4}$	3.7	2.1
Holnwood	45	36	103	188	2.3	1.8
Horley	357	338	1505	2387	4.2	1.5
Leigh	176	161	519	1183 $\frac{1}{2}$	2.9	2.3
Newdigate	254	222	968	1474 $\frac{3}{4}$	3.8	1.5
Ockley	92	64	221	365 $\frac{3}{4}$	2.4	1.6
Wotton	71	58	197	362	2.7	1.8
TOTAL	2116	1759	7715	12224	3.2	1.7

Cesspool Emptying Vehicles

	Number	Make	Capacity	Date Acquired
<u>CAPEL</u>	M.P.H. 488	Dennis	750 gallons	November, 1948
	K.P.R. 760	Dennis	750 "	June, 1945
	C.P.D. 508 +	Dennis	1,000 "	January, 1957
	M.P.B. 852	Dennis	1,000 "	November, 1959
<u>HORLEY</u>	Y.P.C. 15	Dennis	1,000 gallons	October, 1955
	J.P.H. 20	Dennis	1,000 "	March, 1959
	O.P.C. 510	Dennis	750 "	May, 1950
	K.P.A. 963	Dennis	750 "	September, 1945

The cost of this service amounted to approximately £16,745 which necessitated the levying of a general rate of 7.856d. in the £.

PAIL CLOSETS

Present information available in the department shows that there are 970 pail closets in the district situated as follows:-

Abinger	118
Betchworth	59
Buckland	24
Capel	87
Headley	50
Holrwood	27
Leigh	36
Newdigate	196
Ockley	43
Wotton	166
Charlwood & Horley	<u>254</u>
	970

Many of these closets are provided in properties occupied by elderly persons, who have increasing difficulty, by reason of infirmity, to effect the necessary hygienic disposal, so much so that in July, 1959 the Public Health Committee recommended, and the Council agreed, to make provision in the Rate Estimates for 1960/61 for a collection and disposal service throughout the district.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The service of refuse collection and disposal is administered on behalf of the Council by the Engineer and Surveyor. The frequency of collection in Horley and Holrwood is weekly and in other parishes fortnightly.

The refuse vehicles engaged in this service are as follows:-

No.	Type	Make	Capacity	Date of Acquisition
+K.P.H. 430	Taken off the road	May, 1959, and scrapped		
M.P.K. 251	Side Loader	Dennis	10/12 yds. cub.	December, 1948
+N.P.E. 77	" "	Dennis	10/12 " "	July, 1949
S.P.L. 156	Compressor	Bedford	18 " "	April, 1953
B.P.J. 49	Paxit I	Dennis	18 " "	October, 1956
F.P.K. 201	Paxit II	Dennis	18/24 " "	June, 1958
J.P.K. 645	Barrier Ldr.	Dennis	16/18 " "	May, 1959
N.P.C. 40	Paxit II	Dennis	18/24 " "	February, 1960
O.P.B. 650	Side Loader	Bedford	14 " "	April, 1950
O.P.E. 109	Side Loader	Dennis	10/12 " "	May, 1950

The administration of this service in a rural district in which development is taking place is a matter of complexity. Not only is the rate of development difficult to forecast but it is a difficult matter to determine with accuracy the point at which new vehicles and crews should be recruited.

The disposal of refuse is either by tipping in a controlled pit operated by Dorking Urban District Council or by incineration in the destructor of the Reigate Corporation.

Refuse Collection and Disposal (cont.)

The problem of refuse disposal now being experienced by some metropolitan authorities had its impact in the district during the year when a proposal was made to utilise 11 acres of sand excavation in the Parish of Buckland for the controlled tipping of refuse from the Boroughs of Mitcham and Sutton and Cheam. Formal planning approval has been granted by the Planning Authority subject to certain conditions, and the Rural District Council, in conjunction with the Surrey County Council, has granted permission under the provisions of the Surrey County Council Act. The actual tipping is expected to begin in June, 1960.

The operation of the tip will be carried out by the landowner and will be closely supervised by the Council's Public Health Staff.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are two open air swimming pools in the Rural District to which the public are or have been admitted.

(1) The Wagon Shed, Brighton Road, Horley.

It is provided with a plant for constant filtration, chlorination and aeration. Seven samples of water were taken during the year were satisfactory.

(2) Beare Green Country Club.

This open air pool has not been used for over two years and is, together with the filtration plant, now undergoing reconditioning. The original plant consisted of sand filtration under pressure, chlorination and aeration. It is filled from the mains of the East Surrey Water Company.

MORTUARY FACILITIES

The following arrangements are in force in the Rural District with regard to the provision of mortuary services:-

Parishes of Horley and Charlwood

By arrangement with the Redhill Hospital Management Committee the mortuary and post-mortem room at the Redhill County Hospital is used as required. Fourteen bodies were removed for examination on the instructions of H.M. Coroner from premises in the parishes of Horley and Charlwood.

Other Parishes

By agreement with Leatherhead Urban District Council, use is made of the mortuary facilities provided by that Council, the cost being apportioned on the basis of the rateable value of the districts concerned. During the year 18 bodies were dealt with under this arrangement, which included all parishes other than Horley and Charlwood.

This arrangement, while adequate at the moment, will require reconsideration in the near future, as the demands on the Leatherhead Mortuary are increasing year by year with the rapid growth of that district.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Factories Act, 1937

A return, in substantially the same form as follows, has in previous years been made direct to the Minister of Labour, but included in the Annual Report for information. Circular 1/60 removes the obligation to make the return to the Minister and requires that it shall be included in the Annual Report and copies of that report sent to the Factory Inspector for the district concerned.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		Occupiers prosecuted (5)
		Inspection (3)	Written Notices (4)	
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	9	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	134	14	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	143	17	1	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floor (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-

Factories Act, 1937 (cont.)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	-	-

Outworkers

By S. 110 of the Factories Act, 1937, an employer who sends work of certain prescribed classes to workers to be dealt with in their own homes is required to send a list of such works to the Council in February and August of each year, and failure to do so involves a penalty upon conviction.

Means of Escape in Case of Fire

Under Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937, the District Council is required to certify that those factories to which the Section applies are provided with such means of escape in case of fire for the persons employed therein as may be reasonably required.

Application for such certificates are considered in consultation with the Fire Prevention Officer of the Surrey County Fire Brigade.

Two certificates were issued during the year.

The 143 premises on the Register of Factories on the 31st December, 1959, were as follows:-

	<u>Non-Mechanical Power</u>	<u>Mechanical Power</u>
Addressograph Manufacturers	-	1
Agricultural Engineers	-	1
Aircraft Repairers	-	1
Bakers	-	4
Ball Bearing Manufacturers	-	1
Band Saw Maker	-	1
Boot and Shoe Repairers	-	7
Brickworks	-	6
Builders' Workshops	-	16
Cycle Repairers	-	3
Drawing Office Equipment Manufacturers	-	1
Electrical Engineers	-	5
Engineers	-	14
	-	61

Factories (cont.)

	<u>Non-Mechanical Power</u>	<u>Mechanical Power</u>
Brought Forward	-	61
Explosive Manufacturers	-	1
Fine Art Stationery Manufacturers	-	1
Furniture Makers	-	1
Fur Processors	-	1
Garages and Motor Engineers	-	30
Instrument Makers	-	1
Laundries	-	2
Line Works	-	1
Motor Vehicle Repairers	-	8
Plastic Manufacturers	-	1
Portable Building Makers	-	3
Printers	-	3
Radio Repairers	-	5
Research Laboratories	-	3
Rubber Tyre Processing	-	1
Sand and Silica Works	-	1
Sawyers	-	2
Sheet Metal Works	-	2
Super Charger Manufacturers	-	1
Tailors	2	-
Tool Makers	-	2
Undertakers	3	-
Watch Repairers	4	-
Valet and Dry Cleaners	-	3
	<u>9</u>	<u>134</u>

HOUSING

Returns relating to the demolition, closing and repair of houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts are now submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. An abridged summary of which, for the year, is set out below:-

1.	<u>Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year</u>	
(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	619
	(This figure includes premises inspected in connection with Improvement Grant applications)	
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,217
2.	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	Nil
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	7
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	33
1.	<u>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices</u>	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer	40
11.	<u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year</u>	
(a)	<u>Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1937.</u>	
1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
2.	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a)	By owners	-
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	1
111. (b)	<u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts</u>	
1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring to be remedied	3
2.	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a)	By owners	3
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	-

Housing (cont.)

(c) Proceedings under Section 17 of the
Housing Act, 1957

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| 2. | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 2 |

(d) Proceedings under Section 18 of the
Housing Act, 1957

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1. | Number of separate tenements of under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| 2. | Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |
| 3. | Number of houses in respect of which undertakings were received that the premises would not be re-occupied until made reasonably fit for human habitation | 2 |
| 4. | Number of undertakings cancelled the premises having been rendered fit for human habitation | 2 |

Additional information relating to the work of the Public Health Department in respect of housing conditions is to be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Chief Public Health Inspector's report contains information on the work done in connection with the inspection of premises used in the preparation of food, with the inspection of food and with the supervision of the storage and sale of ice-cream.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The Surrey County Council continued to administer the sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1958, dealing with the adulteration of food. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that a total of 83 samples for analysis were taken in this district in 1958. Of these, 68 were of milk, 4 of sausages and the remainder of miscellaneous articles of foodstuffs. One sample of bread and one of milk were found to be below standard.

Information was also given that within that part of the County in which the County Council acts as Food and Drugs Authority a total of 966 samples were taken for analysis, including 703 of milk. Thirty-four samples were found to be adulterated or irregular, 12 of these being of milk and 4 of cooked and prepared meat. Legal proceedings were instituted against a dairy farmer for selling Channel Islands milk deficient in milk fat. On conviction, he was fined £2. with two guineas costs. Legal proceedings were also instituted against a butcher provision merchant for selling chicken and veal pie as "chicken pie". On conviction he was fined £5. with four guineas costs.

PREVENTION OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Included in Table I are the incidence and death rates of various infectious diseases. These are expressed per 1,000 population with the exception of the rate for puerperal pyrexia which is estimated per 1,000 live and still births. Figures for 1958 are reproduced for purposes of comparison.

Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1959, classified according to age and sex. Table V shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases in each of the twelve parishes.

SMALLPOX

No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

Vaccination against Smallpox

During the year notifications were received from medical practitioners of 332 primary vaccinations and 188 re-vaccinations which had been performed by them. Of the primary vaccinations 281 related to children under the age of one year, equivalent to 48% of the number of births registered in the district during the year. The comparable figure for England and Wales was 44.5%.

SCARLET FEVER

Forty-eight cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, compared with twelve in the previous year. Eleven cases were admitted to hospital, either for treatment or because of poor facilities for isolation at home.

Fortunately the increase in this disease, which was predominantly confined to the Parish of Horley was not associated with any increase in virulence of the infection. A rise in incidence occurred over a large part of the country, and was not noted to this district alone.

DIPHTHERIA

For the eleventh year in succession no case of diphtheria was notified in the Rural District.

Reference to Table VI indicates the decline which has taken place in the incidence of this disease.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The aim is for every child to receive a primary treatment in its first year of life with reinforcing treatment every 3 to 4 years up to the end of school life. It is not claimed, even with such treatment, that absolute immunisation will be attained by every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of death is nearly thirty times as great.

Diphtheria Immunisation (cont.)

Although no case of diphtheria has been notified in Dorking and Horley Rural District for eleven years, there has been, during the past two years, an increase in the incidence of this disease in several parts of the country, including the London area. Immunisation against diphtheria, therefore, retains its importance in the immunisation programme which now includes smallpox, against which vaccination is desirable in the first year of life, whooping cough which is often most severe and dangerous in young infants and, therefore, treatment should be concluded as early as possible; poliomyelitis, which is at its commonest, if not at its severest, in the early years, and therefore must be included in the immunisation programme at this stage. Tetanus, although a rare disease, requires consideration before the end of the first year.

Fortunately it is frequently possible to combine the treatment against diphtheria and tetanus in one series of injections, and sometimes to add whooping cough. If this can be arranged with the doctor giving the treatment, it certainly eases the burden on the mother and is not so trying to the patience of the child.

Treatment can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from clinics arranged by the local health authority, these being held at regular intervals at all Infant Welfare Centres, serving the district, of which details are set out on page 9. These arrangements are intended primarily for infants and others under school age. Clinics in schools are arranged as required by the Divisional Medical Officer for pupils requiring treatment.

Notifications were received from medical practitioners and clinics that 480 children had received primary treatment and 39 children reinforcing treatment. The following figures show how the facilities for treatment have been used.

	<u>Primary Treatment</u>	<u>Reinforcing Doses</u>
Treated at Clinics and Schools	203	14
Treated by General Practitioners	<u>277</u>	<u>25</u>
	480	39

It was estimated at the end of the year that 45.9% of children under the age of 15 years had been treated in the period 1954-59 and were, therefore, still in an effective state of immunity. The comparable figure for 1958 was 51%. The fall in the percentage is no doubt partly due to the pre-occupation of the county health service with the task of carrying out the poliomyelitis vaccination programme. The fall affects particularly the older age group of school children. The comparable figure for England and Wales was 54%.

WHOOPING COUGH

Nine cases of whooping cough were notified compared with 10 in the previous year. The incidence rate was 0.29 per 1,000 population. No death was registered as due to this disease.

Immunisation against Whooping Cough

Notifications were received from medical practitioners and clinics that 471 children had received treatment. In 461 the primary treatment was combined with diphtheria immunisation, and in 409 of these immunisation against tetanus was also included.

MEASLES

Seven hundred and thirty-one cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 225 in 1958. The outbreak commenced in the last quarter of 1958 in the Parishes of Holnwood and Betchworth. It spread during the first half of 1959 to all the remaining parishes with the exception of Headley and Wotton. No death from the disease was recorded.

POLIOMYELITIS

For the second year in succession no case of poliomyelitis was notified.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Vaccination against poliomyelitis must now take first place in the means of prevention of this disease. It is too early yet to know how effective the vaccine at present in use will be, and it will be a few years before a complete picture can be obtained of the efficiency and duration of its protective powers. In spite of this, and taking into consideration the malignant nature of the disease and the ineffectiveness of other methods of controlling it, everyone eligible to apply for treatment should do so at the earliest opportunity. The upper age limit has now been extended from 25 years to 40 years of age. Expectant mothers members of health, hospital and nursing services and travellers abroad can apply for the treatment whatever their age.

I am indebted to Dr. T. H. Bingham, Divisional Medical Officer, Southern Division of the Surrey County Council, for the following information relating to vaccination against poliomyelitis of residents of the Rural District during the year 1959.

Third injections	4,401
Persons born in years 1933-1943	1,326
Children born in years 1944-1959	1,355
Expectant mothers	209
General Practitioners and families	7
Ambulance personnel and families	11

The number treated in previous years was 4,749, and the total since the scheme commenced is 7,657. It is estimated that whereas 83% of the child population has been vaccinated, not more than 20% of the older groups eligible for treatment have taken advantage of this form of protection.

DYSENTERY

Thirteen notifications of Sonne Dysentery were received of which twelve related to children living in a residential nursery in Holnwood. This disease is spread by personal contact and when it is introduced into a community of small children the difficulties of limiting infection are very great.

By reason of the nature of its activities the Holnwood nursery is particularly prone to the introduction of this infection. For these reasons it is not surprising that outbreaks of dysentery occur there with regularity, despite the high standard of care which is maintained.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

The fact that no case of puerperal pyrexia was notified is liable to be misleading. There is an administrative procedure by which a notification of puerperal pyrexia is allocated to the district in which the patient is resident at the time of onset. A large number of confinements of residents of the Rural District takes place each year in hospitals or nursing homes which are situated in Dorking and Redhill. Cases of puerperal pyrexia occurring in these institutions are assigned to the areas in which the hospitals are located, thus tending to lower the notification rate in the Rural District.

During the year one resident of Betchworth was notified in the Dorking Urban District following her confinement in the Dorking General Hospital.

TETANUS

No case of tetanus was reported during the year. However, this condition is not notifiable and it is possible for the illness to occur without coming to the notice of the Public Health Department, unless it should proceed to a fatal termination.

Immunisation against Tetanus

The County Council's immunisation arrangements now include treatment against tetanus. This may be given separately or may be combined with the agents used for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, and may be obtained from the family doctor or from a children's clinic. During the year 427 children were immunised against tetanus for the first time and of these 409 were treated simultaneously against diphtheria and whooping cough. In 1958 the number treated was 515.

TUBERCULOSIS

Register of Notified Persons

During the year the names of 33 persons were added to the tuberculosis register, and 42 were removed. Details of these alterations are as follows:-

<u>Additions to Register</u>		<u>Removals from Register</u>	
Primary notifications relating to persons already residing in the district	11	By removals to other districts	19
Transfer of persons notified in other areas, now residing in this district	17	By recovery	20
Restored to register	5	By death	3 +
	<u>33</u>		<u>42</u>

+ In 2 cases the cause of death of the notified person was not attributed to tuberculosis.

At the end of the year the number of names on the register was 160 compared with 169 in the previous year.

Tuberculosis (cont.)

Notification of Tuberculosis

Eleven primary notifications of tuberculosis were received from medical practitioners of persons certified to be suffering from that disease. These concerned residents of the district in whom the disease was recognised for the first time. In Table IV they are classified by sex and age, and in Table V by parish of residence. In Table VII the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified and the resultant incidence rates since 1934 have been tabulated. They show the improvement which has taken place in regard to this disease.

Deaths from Tuberculosis

One death from pulmonary tuberculosis was registered, giving a death rate of 0.03 per 1,000 population, compared with a rate of 0.08 for England and Wales.

Table VII illustrates the trend which the mortality figures for tuberculosis have assumed since 1934. This year's rate and total are the lowest yet recorded.

These results reflect the improvement which has taken place in the methods of treatment of tuberculosis by streptomycin, para-aminosalicylic acid and isoniazid. Infectivity as well as mortality is reduced by these agents. If everyone with persistent respiratory symptoms took advantage of the existing facilities the number of infected persons at large in the community in a condition dangerous to other people would be rapidly reduced. The benefit of early diagnosis and treatment would be apparent at once to the patient by the improvement in his health, and to the community by the reduction of the number of new cases resulting from the curtailment of his period of infectivity.

B.C.G. Vaccination

This treatment is available at Chest Clinics to contacts in the family of tuberculous persons, if preliminary testing shows that they have not already been infected. It has also been offered to children approaching school leaving age. The treatment in schools is carried out by the staff of the Divisional Medical Officer, who has provided the following information relating to the work done in local schools in 1959.

Communications were sent to the parents of school children ascertained to be in the age group concerned, with the following results:-

Number offered treatment	462
Number consenting	304 (equivalent to 66%)
Number vaccinated	249 (equivalent to 54%)

Of the total of 304 children for whom consents were obtained, 17 failed to attend and 50 who were found to be positive to the preliminary Mantoux test were, therefore, excluded from treatment.

Tuberculosis Care Committee

There are voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committees in Dorking and Reigate which work in close association with local chest clinics and hospitals. The assistance granted to tuberculous persons and their dependants included the supply of extra nourishment, fuel, bedding, clothes and sick room requisites, etc., and the payment of fares, pocket money and other incidental expenses which could not be met from official sources.

Mass Radiography

Information has been received from the Medical Director of the Mass Radiography Service that the experimental scheme which commenced last year was continued. This involved a weekly visit by a unit to the Car Park of the Thorns Hotel on Tuesday from 12.15 p.m. - 1 p.m. The purpose of the visit was to encourage the X-ray examination of patients attending their doctors for symptoms referable to diseases of the chest. One hundred and fifty-seven persons were referred to the Unit.

A Unit also visited the Car Park of the Dorking Halls on Wednesdays from 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. This was a convenient site for access from many parts of the Rural District.

TABLE I. COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES, AND INCIDENCE RATES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE YEARS 1958 and 1959.

	1958	1959
<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>		
<u>BIRTHS</u>		
Live Births (Crude)	17.9	19.2
<u>DEATHS</u>		
All Causes (Crude)	10.3	9.1
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis	0.10	0.03
Influenza	0.03	0.06
Smallpox	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-
Pneumonia	0.40	0.39
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)</u>		
Typhoid Fever	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Scarlet Fever	0.40	1.57
Whooping Cough	0.33	0.29
Diphtheria	-	-
Erysipelas	-	0.06
Smallpox	-	-
Measles	7.50	23.95
Pneumonia	0.57	0.52
Poliomyelitis, paralytic	-	-
non-paralytic	-	-
Food Poisoning	0.17	0.10
Dysentery	1.10	0.43
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0.57	0.29
non-respiratory	0.07	0.06
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u>		
Under 1 year of age	11.2	13.7
Under 4 weeks of age (Neonatal)	11.2	10.3
Under 1 week of age (Early Neonatal)		8.5
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births</u>		
Still Births	20.1	13.5
Perinatal Mortality		21.9
Puerperal Pyrexia (Notification of)	-	-
Maternal Mortality	-	-

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1931-1959

(Decennial Averages 1931 - 1950. Annual 1951 - 1959)

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population			Death Rate per 1,000 Population			Death Rate of Children under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births		
	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley		England and Wales	Dorking and Horley		England and Wales	Dorking and Horley	No. of Infant Deaths
1931-1940	14.9	14.1		12.2	12.0	(10.6)	57.1	45.3	8
1941-1950	17.0	17.4		11.7	11.3		42.6	32.0	4
1951	15.5	15.8	(15.5)	12.5	12.4	(11.3)	29.6	19.4	6
1952	15.3	16.5	(16.2)	11.3	11.1	(10.1)	27.6	9.2	8
1953	15.5	15.6	(16.5)	11.4	9.3	(8.4)	26.8	14.3	10
1954	15.2	15.8	(16.8)	11.3	9.0	(8.1)	25.4	18.3	9
1955	15.0	14.8	(15.7)	11.7	10.7	(9.6)	24.9	24.3	12
1956	15.7	15.9	(16.9)	11.7	9.5	(9.2)	23.7	20.0	6
1957	16.1	17.3	(17.6)	11.5	10.9	(11.2)	23.0	23.8	8
1958	16.4	17.9	(18.2)	11.7	10.3	(10.6)	22.5	11.2	
1959	16.5	19.2	(19.6)	11.6	9.1	(9.3)	22.0	13.7	

+ Bracketed figures represent standardised rates.

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT

	M	F	Total
1. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	1	-	1
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	3	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	3	14
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	6	6
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	4	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	19	10	29
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	26	43
18. Coronary disease angina	21	19	40
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
20. Other heart disease	20	22	42
21. Other circulatory disease	6	7	13
22. Influenza	-	2	2
23. Pneumonia	9	3	12
24. Bronchitis	10	4	14
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	3	2	5
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	12	21
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2
34. All other accidents	2	4	6
35. Suicide	-	1	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY AGE AND SEX

	Under 1 year		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64	65 years & over	All Ages		Total all ages both sexes
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Meningococcal Infections	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Snallpox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	7	9	64	54	86	86	188	180	19	23	3	8	3	1	4	5	370	361	731
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	10	6	16
Polio	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Polio myelitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
paralytic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
non-paralytic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Malaria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
pulmonary	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
non-pulmonary	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY PARISHES

	Ablinger	Betchworth	Buckland	Capel	Charlwood	Headley	Holnwood	Horley	Leigh	Newdigate	Ockley	Wotton	Total
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Meningococcal Infections	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Smallpox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	22	17	25	70	16	3	17	478	14	54	13	2	731
Pneumonia	1	1	1	7	1	1	1	9	1	1	2	1	16
Polio-myelitis paralytic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
non-paralytic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis pulmonary	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	13
non-pulmonary	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2

TABLE VI

INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT 1934-1959

(QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES 1934-1958)

Year	Number of cases notified	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
1934 - 1938	53	0.53	0.04
1939 - 1943	11	0.09	0.04
1944 - 1948	8	0.07	-
1949 - 1953	-	-	-
1954 - 1958	-	-	-
1959	-	-	-

TABLE VII

TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY

(QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES 1934-58)

Year	Number of Primary Notifications	Notification Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths Total	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
1934 - 1938	19	0.77	12	0.62
1939 - 1943	20	0.90	11	0.46
1944 - 1948	24	1.05	11	0.48
1949 - 1953	20	0.73	4	0.16
1954 - 1958	16	0.57	4	0.13
1959	11	0.36	1	0.03

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Council Offices,
Chalkpit Lane,
DORKING.

June, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Dorking and Horley Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the Annual Report for 1959, which closely follows the arrangements of the Report for 1958.

In so far as figures reflect the work of this Department, 1959 must be rated as the best year since the Department was created in 1947, since the total number of visits made was 3,482, the highest ever attained. The reason for this increase lies in the appointment of an outside assistant to help in the work of the District Public Health Inspectors, and he has relieved them of a large amount of routine follow-up work, leaving them free for other important duties.

As I have commented on the various aspects of the Department's work on the following pages there is no matter upon which I would touch in this introductory note except perhaps to remind the Committee that Public Health work is only a part of my responsibilities; the other part being the management and supervision of the Council's housing estates.

I would like to record my continued appreciation of all the help and support given to me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and indeed by the Council as a whole. My thanks to the Medical Officer of Health for his encouragement at all times and to the Staff of the Department for their loyal support.

I would also mention gratefully the help and advice given by the other Chief Officers and their Staff.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ERIC A. ATKINSON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Inspections and Visits

The total number of inspections and visits in 1959 on various matters pertaining to public health was 3,482. This compares with the previous five years as follows:-

<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
2375	2178	2907	2532	2872	3482

Details

Act or Regulation	Details	No. of visits	Paragraph Number
Petroleum (Consolidated) Act, 1928.	No of Installations inspected	55	4
	No of " tested	32	
Public Health Act, 1936	Visits re drainage	312	5
S. 37/39	" " cesspools	229	
S. 50	" " nuisance		
S. 92	(a) premises	111	
	(b) animals	3	
	(c) smoke	36	
S.259/263	Visits re ditches and watercourses	191	
S.268/269	Visits re moveable dwellings	30	
S.233	Visits re swimming pools	-	
S.111	Visits re water supply	66	
S.111	Visits re water samples	28	
S.148/160	Infectious disease enquiries	127	
	Rooms disinfected	15	
	Pathological specimens taken	36	
Factories Act, 1937	Inspection of Factories with power	8	
	Inspection of Factories without power	3	
	Means of escape in case of fire	6	
	Visits to outworkers' premises	2	
Food & Drugs Act, 1955			
<u>Premises in respect of which there are Special Regulations</u>			
(a) Milk & Dairy Regulations, 1949	Dairies and Milkshops	22	6
	Farms and cowsheds	-	
	No. of milk samples	187	
(b) Ice Cream Heat Treatment Regulations, 1957	No. of ice cream samples	5	7
	Visits to dealers	10	
(c) Slaughterhouse	No. of visits	206	9
(d) Other registered premises	Butchers (sausage manufacturers)	9	

Inspections and Visits (cont.)

Act or Regulation	Details	No. of visits	Paragraph Number
Food & Drugs Act, 1955			
Other Food Premises	Bakehouses	16	8
	Cafes	16	
	Canteens	8	
	Restaurant Kitchens	4	
	Licensed Premises	6	
Unsound Food	Visits re	38	10
Housing Act, 1957	Inspections re unfit dwellings	296	13/17
	Inspections re improvement grants	685	
	Visits re housing applicants	5	
	Visits re Rent Act, 1957	54	
Prevention of damage by Pests Act, 1949	Visits re pest control	341	18
Gatwick Airport	Visits	20	
Other unclassified Visits		266	

ACT OR REGULATION	DETAILS	PRELIMINARY OR INFORMAL				FORMAL OR STATUTORY			
		Outstanding 31.12.58	Served 1959	Complied with	Outstanding 31.12.59	Outstanding 31.12.58	Served 1959	Complied with	Outstanding 31.12.59
PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATED REGULATIONS)	No. of Notices to test installations	-	8	8	-	-	-	-	-
	Breach of Licensing conditions (Naked lights)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936	S.39 Unsatisfactory drainage to existing buildings	19	11	25	5	-	4	3	1
	S.46 Provide sanitary accommodation to workplace	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
	S.50 Overflowing or leaking cesspools	13	18	22	9	-	1	-	1
	S.56 Paving of yards and passages	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
	S.58 Dangerous buildings	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
	S.75 Provision of dustbins	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
	S.93 Abatement of nuisances	9	5	14	-	-	3	-	3
	(a) Premises (b) Animals (c) Offensive accumulations (d) Dust or effluvia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FACTORIES ACT, 1937	S.259 Obstructed and polluted ditches	5	14	16	3	-	1	1	-
	S. 7 Insufficient or unsuitable sanitary accommodation	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
	PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS	1	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
	ACT, 1949	11	24	15	20	1	6	2	5
HOUSING ACT, 1957	S. 7 Repair of unfit houses	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956	S.16 Abatement of smoke nuisance	59	94	11	40	1	15	6	10
TOTAL									

Legal Proceedings

Legal proceedings were taken during the year against the vendor of a mouldy pork pie. Evidence was given that the pie was delivered to the retailers premises on the Saturday before the August Bank Holiday; but was not sold until the following Friday. The Public Analyst stated that the moulds present included species of *Aspergillus*, *Penicillium* and *Rhizopus*.

One does not need to be reminded that the Summer of 1959 was exceptionally warm and dry and daily maximum temperatures in the region of 70°F - 75°F were recorded during the period the pie was on sale.

For the defence it was stated that pies on delivery were placed in the refrigerator and only a small number were withdrawn daily for sale. Those not sold were discarded and not returned to the refrigerator.

The Magistrate found the charge under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 of selling to the prejudice of the purchaser a pork pie not of the quality demanded proved and imposed a fine of £3 and £10, 10. 0. costs. A charge under Section 8 of the Act for selling a pie not fit for human consumption was dismissed.

These proceedings served to bring before the public once again the care which must be exercised in the sale and purchase of meat pies and underline the necessity for clearly marking the wrapper in such a way that both retailer and purchaser may know just how fresh the article may be. Pie Manufacturers mark their wrappings with code symbols, so that while they are aware of the age of their product the general public has no means of detecting the products age.

I think that the manufacture of perishable foodstuffs would do the public and the retailer a great act of service if they clearly marked their products with the date of manufacture.

On two other occasions the Council considered complaints relating to food as follows:-

- (1) Presence in Demerara sugar of rat excreta.

Despite a careful search of the retailer's premises no evidence of any rodent infestation was found and since there was a similar lack of evidence at the Wholesaler's premises the question was referred to the Port Health Authority for their information.

- (2) Presence in butter of a splinter of wood.

After receiving the Manufacturer's observations as to the handling of butter on his premises, the Council decided to take no legal proceedings but to warn the trader of the necessity of maintaining the high standard of cleanliness on the handling of a perishable foodstuff such as butter.

Petroleum (Consolidated) Act, 1928

Eighty-seven licences to store petroleum spirit or mixtures of petroleum were issued during the year in respect of which fees amounting to £80. 7. 6. were paid. Licences are issued subject to a number of conditions designed to ensure that the risk to life and property as a result of the use or storage of petroleum is minimised. "Petroleum Spirit" is defined as such petroleum as when tested according to the provisions of the Act give off an inflammable vapour at a temperature of less than 73° Fahrenheit.

Petroleum (Consolidated) Act, 1928. (cont.)

All new installations are pressure tested before being allowed to receive petroleum or petroleum spirits and no licence is renewed in respect of any installation more than 20 years old without re-testing. Further tests are applied at 30 years and thereafter annually.

All the 32 installations tested or re-tested were satisfactory.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 148. Infectious Illness

It is now an established practice for the Public Health Inspectors on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health to visit houses where a case of infectious illness has occurred. The purpose of the visit is to obtain information as to contacts and places of employment, particularly employment in food industry. This information enables the appropriate action to be taken in certain cases to exclude contacts from school or work. In the case of patients who may recover but still be infective - as in the case of certain illness of the dysenteries or food poisoning groups - the weekly collection of specimens for laboratory examination is also made.

MILK

One hundred and eighty-five samples of milk were taken for bacteriological or biological examination with the following results:-

	<u>Bacteriological Tests</u>	
	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Failed</u>
Tuberculin Tested	26	4
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	11	1
Pasteurised	119	15
Sterilised	1	-
Crean	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
	162	23

Twelve of the tests were void since the atmospheric shade temperature exceeded 65°F. The Regulations require that samples on arrival at the Laboratory shall be removed from the insulated container and kept at atmospheric shade temperature until the tests are begun, and the tests shall be commenced between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. on the day after the samples are taken. The fact that so large a number of tests were void since the shade temperature exceeded 65°F underlines the difficulty frequently experienced in rural districts of getting samples to the laboratory in good time and condition.

The various tests that are applied to milk samples are briefly as follows:-

Methylene Blue reduction test

This test does not provide information as to the number of kinds of bacteria in a given sample, but it does afford a measure of the activity of the bacterial content. The majority of the organisms in milk are capable of affecting certain dyes, notably methylene blue and therefore the time taken to reduce or decolour methylene blue is taken as an index of the bacterial content.

Samples are presumed to satisfy the test if the time taken to decolourise methylene blue is not less than as follows:-

Methylene Blue reduction test (cont.)

Nature of Samples	Time taken to decolourise methylene blue	
	Summer (a)	Winter (b)
	4½ hours 30 minutes No prescribed time	5½ hours 30 minutes No prescribed time
Tuberculin Tested Milk Pasteurised Raw - ungraded		
(a) (b)	1st May - 31st October 1st November - 30th April	

Phosphatase Test

Raw or untreated milk contains two enzymes known as peroxidase and phosphatase, both of which are destroyed by heat. The object of the test is, therefore, to discover the presence of phosphatase or in other words to assess the efficiency or otherwise of the pasteurising process. Incidentally, the test will also reveal the presence of added raw milk. The results of the test are classified as follows:-

<u>Units of Blue</u>	<u>Results described as</u>
Below 2.3 units	Negative phosphatase test
2.3 - 6.0 units	Insufficiently heat treated
Over 6.0 units	Gross under treated

Turbidity Test

This test which is applied only to sterilised milk is designed to test the completeness of the sterilisation procedures by which milk in bottle is heated to a temperature of 212°F. After such treatment the milk is virtually sterile and should keep for an indefinite period.

REGISTRATION AND LICENCES

The number of persons on the Milk Retailers Register on the 31st December, 1959, was 25.

Fifty-seven licences were issued in respect of graded milk as follows:-

	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supplementary</u>
Tuberculin Tested	10	11
Pasteurised	12	11
Sterilised	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
	29	28
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1958

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Notice was served on a firm of milk distributors to appear before the Council to show cause why they should not be removed from the Register of Persons carrying on the Trade of a Milk Distributor.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. (cont.)

Despite the fact that their attention had been drawn to the infringement of the Milk and Dairies Regulations occasioned by the manufacture of a product which although resembling milk, was not in fact milk, in a part of these registered premises, they had made no attempt to comply with the Regulations. Some difficulty was experienced in getting the firm's representatives to appear, but when eventually they did so, they gave an undertaking to comply with the Regulations and apologised for their failure to appear before the Committee at an earlier date.

Some anxiety was felt over the product being manufactured, since it, by appearance, smell and to some extent taste, closely resembled milk. It was manufactured by heating a measured quantity of water to a temperature of approximately 150°F and then adding spray dried skimmed milk powder and sugar, and with, in some instances refined, deodorised, hydrogenated palm kernel oil, all according to a pre-determined formula to all intents and purposes a reconstituted milk - and had it been sold as such there would have been a contravention of the Food and Drugs Act. It was in fact sold under a trade name which did not include the word "milk" and was therefore outside the scope of the Regulations.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1957

Ice Cream is no longer manufactured in the district and such ice cream as is on sale is made by large manufacturing concerns outside the district. The taking of samples is, therefore, a routine matter but special attention is given to those ice cream dealers who divide the larger blocks of ice cream into portions for consumption between wafers. The co-operation of the manufacturers in seeing that their products reach the public in a satisfactory condition must be acknowledged.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Food Hygiene Regulations

Notices were served in respect of 5 premises concerning infringements of the Food Hygiene Regulations as follows:-

			<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Regulation	6	Dirty Equipment	1	1
"	17	Absence of proper first-aid kit	1	1
"	18	Absence of accommodation for outdoor clothing	1	-
"	19	Absence of washing facilities with hot and cold water supplies, soap, towel and nail brush	3	2
"	21	Absence of proper ventilation to food rooms	2	1
"	23	Dirty walls, floors, ceilings, windows, etc. of food rooms - No. of rooms	5	3

Meat and Slaughterhouses

The number of animals slaughtered in the three licensed slaughterhouses is given in the following table:-

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)				
Charlwood	245	28	100	162
Ockley	9	9	22	182
Holmwood	-	-	-	5
Number inspected	254	37	122	349
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	-	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	110	-	8	10
Percentage of No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	44%	-	14.7%	4%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	11
Percentage of No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	less than 5%	-	-	3.1%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-

In addition to the above, the carcasses of five goats were inspected at Charlwood Slaughterhouse.

Meat and Slaughterhouses (cont.)

It is very gratifying to be able to point once again to a one hundred per cent inspection of animals killed in the slaughterhouses. This work is at one and the same time unspectacular yet essential, interesting and yet monotonous, and is a vital link in the protection of the public against the consumption of unsound or diseased meat.

Slaughterhouses (Reports) Direction 1959

The Slaughterhouses (Reports) Direction, 1959, issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the 12th February, 1959, requires each local authority to review and, after consultation with such organisations as appear to represent the interests concerned, to report to the Minister on

- (a) the existing and probable future requirements of their district for slaughterhouse facilities having regard to the needs both of persons requiring the use of such facilities and of other persons; and
- (b) The slaughterhouse facilities which are, or are likely to become, available to meet those requirements (including any port slaughterhouse).

In accordance with this Direction a Report was sent to the Ministry on the 11th January, 1960. This report reviewed the changing circumstances in the rural district as between pre-war demands and present day trends and in particular classified the four existing slaughterhouses in this district as follows:-

- (a) Premises which already comply with the requirements of construction regulations for the time being in force in respect of new slaughterhouses.

The Slaughterhouse at the rear of
Aberdeen House,
The Street, Charlwood.

- (b) Premises which do not comply with the construction regulations but which the local authority expect to comply with by the date recommended by them in their Report.

The Slaughterhouses at the rear of
Aberdeen House,
Newdigate. and

Corner's
Butcher's Shop,
Stane Street, Ockley.

- (c) Premises which the local authority expect will not comply with the construction regulations by the date recommended in their Report.

Aberdeen House,
Holmwood.

The Council further decided to recommend to the Minister that the date on which Part II and III and paragraph (1) of Regulations 19, sub-paragraph (4) of Regulation 25 and Regulation 32 of the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 shall come into force with regard to existing slaughterhouses in the rural district of Dorking and Horley shall be

1st OCTOBER, 1960.

Unsound Food

The following quantities of unsound foods were surrendered during the year and were disposed of in the main by processing for animal feeding stuffs at the Reigate Corporation Disposal Plant,

Canned Food

Meat	Corned Beef	290	lbs	
	Corned Beef/Mutton	684	"	12 ozs.
	Cooked Ham	297	"	14 "
	Luncheon Meat	488	"	8 "
	Jellied Veal	12	"	
	Pigs' Livers	20	"	
	Ox Tongues,	2	"	
	Ox Liver	27	"	
Fish	Pilchards	83	"	
	Salmon			4 ozs.
	Kippers	72	"	
Vegetables	Beans	321	"	
	Tomatoes	21	"	3 "
	Mixed Vegetables	1	lb	
	Peas	1	"	
Jams	Marmalade	16	lbs	
	Plum Jam	50	"	
	Strawberry	8	"	
	Apple & Strawberry	1	lb	
	Apricot	1	"	
Pickles and Sauces	Pickle	62	lbs.	12 ozs.
	Tomato Sauce	1	lb	
	Belop Sauce	1	"	9 "
	Chop Sauce	1	"	
	Epicure Pickled Onions	4	lbs	2 "
	Midget Gherkins	2	"	1 oz
Other Foods	Sunlea Puree	136	lbs	
	Honey	17	"	12 ozs
	Apple Jelly			8 "
	Grapefruit Sections	1	lb	4 "
	Evaporated Milk	4	lbs	
	Tomato Juice	1	tin	

Home Killed Meat

(a) Beef	(i) Whole Carcasses	2	949	lbs
	(ii) Part Carcasses (hindquarters, fore- quarters & 1 loin)	3	266	"
(b) Pork	(i) Whole Carcasses	2	167	"
	(ii) Part Carcasses (1 loin)	1	81	"
<u>Other Food</u>	Boiling Fowls	10	34	" 11 ozs

Equal to 1 ton 19 cwts. 1 qtr. 16 lbs.

There are now three large food storage depots and warehouses in the rural district situated in Betchworth and Salfords, in the Parish of Horley and these provide the greater part of the foodstuffs surrendered for destruction.

National Assistance Act. 1948 - 1951

Section 31 - Meals for Old People

In July, 1959, the Public Health Committee considered a request from the Women's Voluntary Service for assistance in the establishment of a "meals on wheels" scheme for the benefit of elderly or handicapped persons in the parishes of Charlwood and Horley. W.V.S. members would distribute the meals, obtained from a local canteen at agreed prices, by means of their own transport. It was expected that 100 meals would be provided per week.

The Council agreed to make a contribution of 10d. per meal purchased and to a mileage allowance of 6d. per mile, in addition to which the Council purchased four sets of equipment for keeping the meals hot, at a cost of £116. 8. 0.

Due to unavoidable delays the scheme was not brought into operation by the 31st December, 1959.

Section 50

By Section 50 of this Act, it is the duty of country district councils to arrange for the burial of the body of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, if it appears to the authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body had been or are being made otherwise than by the Authority. The Council may recover from the estate of the deceased person or from any person who was liable to maintain the deceased immediately before his death the expenses incurred, after taking into account any death benefit payable under the National Insurance Act, 1946.

The Council was called upon to exercise its responsibilities under this Section three times during the year. The total expenses were £87. 4. 1. of which the sum of £75. 1. 1. was either recovered or paid by relatives. In one case disposal was by cremation and in the other two cases by earth burial.

Clean Air Act, 1956

Smoke Control Areas

The Public Health Committee considered the establishment of a smoke control area for part of the Parish of Horley under Section 11 (1) of the Clean Air Act, 1956, and although the Committee recommended the approval in principle the Council was reluctant to agree to this step being taken at the present time. Any proposal to establish control over the domestic hearth is bound to rouse comment, and give rise to controversy and in the heat of argument certain basic principles tend to become obscured. There is no doubt that cheerful though an open fire may be, it is dirty, wasteful of heat and allows vitiating products of incomplete combustion to pollute the atmosphere. It is not generally realised to what a crippling extent the discharge of smoke into the atmosphere has upon the health of the individual or growing substances. People living in smoky areas suffer more from bronchitis and chest diseases and their resistance is generally lowered by the lack of sunlight apart from which the National bill for washing, cleaning, painting and repairs due to air pollution is colossal. Anything, therefore, which can be done to reduce the amount of smoke discharge into the atmosphere must benefit the community at large in the long run.

People living in country areas has a priceless asset in clean air which I am afraid is not always appreciated.

Smoke Control Areas (cont.)

The position of the Clean Air Advocate is made difficult by the absence of any National Fuel Policy for while he pleads for the abolition of the open fires and supports his case by the Clean Air Act of 1956, the commercial television channels blandly transmit appeals to "Burn more Coal".

HOUSING

Closure or Demolition of Unfit Houses

Sections 16 to 28 of the Housing Act, 1957

The owners of the following dwellings were invited by means of a "Time and Place Notice" to discuss the condition of their premises in order that their future use could be considered.

Numbers 1, 2 and 3 Ditches Green Cottages, Walliswood. Here the principal deficiency was the absence of a proper water supply. Since the Council had proposals for the extension of the water main in this area under discussion with the Guildford, Godalming and District Water Board, further consideration of the future of these dwellings was deferred on the owner's undertaking to make a grant towards the cost of extending the main, the total cost of which was regarded as "unreasonable" within the terms of the Water Act, for the Council to bear in its entirety.

Tillingbourne House, Wotton, a country mansion style dwelling, part of which is derelict and part occupied by three families. For the owner the contention that the premises were not fit for habitation was accepted, and an undertaking given that they would not be occupied after the present tenants had been rehoused. In view of the shortage of accommodation, however, the Estates Management Committee could proceed no further than to consider the rehousing of the family living in the basement flat, but even this had not been possible by the end of the year.

Number 5 Rectory Cottages, Charlwood. Consideration of the future use of this dwelling was deferred for further consultations with the owner, which had not been concluded by the end of the year.

A room in a house in the Parish of Charlwood was deemed to be unfit for habitation by reason of the absence of natural light and ventilation. Following service of a "Time and Place Notice" the owner undertook certain work which provided adequate lighting and ventilation and a Closing Order was therefore not made.

Numbers 3 and 4 Burts Cottages, Horley, were reconditioned in accordance with the terms of the owner's undertaking which was then revoked.

Repair of Unfit Dwellings

Housing Act, 1957, Public Health, 1936, Rent Act, 1957

These three Acts contain provisions whereby the repair of dwellings may be brought about. Under the Housing Act a local authority may require the repair of any house which is unfit for human habitation and which can be made so fit at reasonable cost. A failure by the person

Repair of Unfit Dwellings (cont.)

having control of the house to execute the required works, the local authority may themselves execute the work in default and recover their expenses. In considering whether a dwelling is unfit the Council may take into account the condition with regard to the following matters:-

- (a) Repair
- (b) Stability
- (c) Freedom from damp
- (d) Natural lighting
- (e) Ventilation
- (f) Water supply
- (g) Drainage and sanitary convenience
- (h) Facilities for storage, preparation and cooking of food and for the disposal of waste water

The Public Health Act, 1936, contains a number of provisions by which certain specific matters relating to premises may be dealt with, among which may be mentioned the following:-

Drainage of existing buildings	Section 39
Soil Pipe and ventilating shafts	" 40
Closet accommodation	" 43 - 47
Cesspools - overflowing or leaking	" 50
Dangerous and dilapidated buildings	" 58
Removal of house refuse	" 72 - 75
Dirty or verminous premises	" 83
Premises in such a state as to be a nuisance	" 92

Details of the Notices served under the various headings are set out in the table on page 42.

Rent Act, 1957

This Act brings an influence to bear on owners to carry out repairs by preventing them from recovering the full rent permitted by the Act, in cases where the tenant has obtained a Certificate of Disrepair from the local authority.

While only three applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, were received during the year no fewer than 54 others were made in respect of queries and requests for information. In each case the owner's undertaking to carry out the work claimed by the tenant was accepted.

Looking back over the administration of the Act since 9.10.57 it is noted that no fewer than 35 undertakings to carry out work within six months were accepted by the Council. By December, 31st, no fewer than 19 of these undertakings had been complied with.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The greater emphasis in housing in 1959 as in 1958 was in the reconditioning and improvement of dwellings with the aid of the improvement grant scheme, which was further extended by the introduction of the "standard grants" by the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. The extended facilities provided for two kinds of grant.

Improvement Grants (cont.)

- (a) Standard Grants where an owner desires to provide certain standard amenities such as bath, W.C., hot water system, wash hand basin and foodstore. This type of grant can be claimed as of right, subject to a maximum of £155, made up as follows:-

(i)	For a fixed bath and shower in a bathroom	£25
(ii)	For a wash hand basin	£5
(iii)	For a hot water supply which must be connected to sink as well as bath and shower and wash hand basin	£75
(iv)	For a water closet in or contiguous to the house	£40
(v)	For satisfactory facilities for storing food	£10

- (b) Discretionary Grants are, as the heading implies available at the discretion of the Council for a wide range of improvements which will result in a house being thoroughly modernised and brought up to date. Such a grant is not available for repairs or renewal or for remedying defects brought about by poor or neglected maintenance.

To be eligible for a discretionary grant the estimated cost of the improvements must not be less than £100 and the maximum grant is £400.

After improvement works have been carried out the house must comply with the following 12 points:-

- (i) have a life of 30 years or to have a life which is likely to be more than 15 years.
- (ii) be in a good state of repair and substantially free from damp.
- (iii) have each room properly lighted and ventilated
- (iv) have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on inside the dwelling.
- (v) be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes.
- (vi) have an internal or otherwise readily accessible water closet.
- (vii) have a fixed bath (or shower) in a separate room.
- (viii) be provided with a sink or sinks with suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste water.
- (ix) have a proper drainage system
- (x) be provided in each room with adequate points for gas or electric lighting (where reasonably available).
- (xi) be provided with adequate facilities for heating.
- (xii) have satisfactory facilities for storing, preparing and cooking food.

During the year approval was given to 76 applications for Discretionary Grants totalling £21,521. 10. 0. and 11 Standard Grants totalling £1,040. 10. 0. The standard amenities to be provided in these 11 applications were

1.	Bath or shower in bathroom	10
2.	Wash hand basin	11
3.	Hot water supply	11
4.	Water Closet	8
5.	Food Store	3

Purchase of Unfit Houses

With the completion of the purchase of Nos. 1 - 4 Gatwick Cottages, Horley, the Council was unable to proceed with the scheme of repair and modernisation. Tenders were invited for work which included provision of bathroom, hot water services to bath, basin and sink, water closets, larders and connection to sewer. Since the purchase price of these four cottages was £1,098 their acquisition, repair and improvement cost £3,913. 13. 6. or £1,229 per cottage, which compared with the cost of providing a new Council house may be regarded as a very satisfactory result. The rents which at the date of purchase averaged 13/2½ per cottage inclusive of rates were raised on the completion of the work to £2. 0. 8. each inclusive, that being the maximum unabated rent payable by a tenant earning £15. p.w. but from which the tenants could claim a temporary rebate according to income and in accordance with the Council rebate scheme, the maximum rebate being 18/2 p.w.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

On the 31st March, 1959, the Council discontinued the free domestic service of rodent destruction, and any contract work then outstanding. The steps followed the withdrawal of the specific grant towards the cost of such a service by the Treasury. The Pests Act places the responsibility for the eradication of rats and mice from infested premises upon the occupier and the Council sought means of advice given by Public Health Officers, backed by legal sanction to maintain the suppression of the rodent population. Three hundred and forty-one visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors, but only three notices were served to bring out compliance with the Act.

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